



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/042,485	01/08/2002	Seikei Lee	22738.00300	6078
7590 Doyle B. Johnson CROSBY, HEAFEY, ROACH & MAY Suite 2000 Two Embarcadero Center San Francisco, CA 94111			EXAMINER VIG, NARESH	
			ART UNIT 3629	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/03/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/042,485

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

NARESH VIG

Art Unit

3629

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 - 9 and 24 - 37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 - 9 and 24 - 37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- _____ Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- _____ Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Inventor's Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is in reference to response received 30 May 2008. Cancellation of claims 2 and 16 – 23 is acknowledged. Claims 1, 3 – 9 and 24 – 37 are pending for examination.

Response to Arguments

In response to applicant's argument that cited references does not teach:
joining two separate conference rooms, that the present invention allows a participant to visually identify what equipment is available on the system, and that the presentation is presented to other conference attendees during the conference.

However, cited reference DecisionRoom clearly teaches conference between two or more attendees. Moving a terminal to another location thereby creating two conference room and connecting them via modem, lease line, direct line etc. enables two remotely attached attendee terminals to communicate with each other. Connection to remote device to each other is old and known technology to one of ordinary skill in the art. For example, Remote Workstation Support capability available in Microsoft Windows environment, AIM, Microsoft Messenger etc. Therefore, at the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc by applying a known technique to a known device or method ready for improvement to yield predictable result.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches a browsing unit (attendee terminal) which can be used for browsing the contents of the presentation during a

conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment.

SNMPc teaches concept of employing an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network, wherein the electronic equipment is located in at least two separate locations.

It is old and know to one of ordinary skill in the art that a network operator can control remote devices including rebooting, turning on/off a connection etc.

Therefore, at the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc by applying a known technique to a known device or method ready for improvement to yield predictable result.

Thus, cited references teaches capability wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons can be displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant (e.g. available icons on SNMPc Display Green which indicates that the remote terminals have properly made connection in the intranet).

In response to applicant's argument that cited references do not have capability to support plurality different types remote devices like a projector, a GUI display device, a whiteboard, and a printer device.

However, applicant is arguing a limitation not positively claimed by the applicant. As best understood by the examiner, applicant's claimed invention is for attendant electronic equipment. Cited references has the capability manage and support plurality of different types SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) compliant devices. Therefore, at the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill that cited reference can also manage and support output equipment includes like SNMP compliant devices such as a projector, a GUI display device, a whiteboard, and a printer device.

In response to applicant's argument that cited reference do not support concept of an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the network, wherein the electronic equipment is located in at least two separate locations.

However, it is old and known to one of ordinary skill in the art that SNMPc is a Microsoft Windows application, and, Microsoft Windows is a Multi-tasking operating system. Therefore, installing SNMPc in each of attendant electronic equipment can be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to ensure that each attendant terminal equipment is self sufficient. Therefore, at the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc by applying a known technique to a known device or method ready for improvement to yield predictable result.

In response to applicant's argument that the citation to the Abstract simply does not support this rejection.

However, applicant is required under 37 CFR '1.111 (c) to consider the references fully when responding to this office action.

In response to applicant's argument that claimed invention does not support each attendant electronic equipment acquires one of the authority to be a presenter terminal, the authority to be a chairman terminal and the authority to be an attendant terminal.

However, cited references teaches the capability wherein participant device is at least an attendant terminal.

In response to applicant's argument that with respect to Claim 24, the cited combination of references fails to teach or suggest "preparing an attendance information file for managing the plurality of attendant electronic equipment attending a conference by using the personal data and the result of attendance authentication; and preparing attendant equipment display information for displaying, as an icon, the personal data of each attendant electronic equipment managed as the attendance information file in accordance with the result of attendance authentication."

However, it is old and known to one of ordinary skill in the art that devices to be monitored are identified in SNMPc which are saved in a file aka MIB file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 4 – 9, 24 – 31 and 33 – 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 4 – 9, 24 – 31 and 33 – 34 are directed to a network conferencing system having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment operated by users attending a conference, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network. However, body of the claims is directed to the structure of attendant electronic equipment only. As currently claimed, it is not clear whether the claimed invention is for the network conferencing system, or, for just for the attendant electronic equipment.

Also, in claim 24, applicant recites a limitation outputting the conference attendance request to the other attendant electronic equipment. However, outputting the conference attendance request to the other attendant electronic equipment is not tied with the claimed invention.

In addition, as currently claimed, it is not clear whether the components are for the intention for using it for the recited limitations, or, said each components are adapted to perform the claimed recited limitations.

Claims 3, 32 and 35 – 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 3, 32 and 35 – 37 are directed to an attendant electronic equipment operated by a user attending a conference comprising an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network, a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. As currently claimed, it is not clear whether the authentication unit of attendant electronic equipment authenticates itself and displays other attendant electronic equipment, or, each of the other attendant electronic equipment are authenticated by attendant electronic equipment. Also, presentation method as claimed in claims 35 – 36 presents contents of a presentation by transferring contents to output electronic equipment or attendant electronic equipment. As currently claimed, attendant electronic equipment is presenters unit or other attendant electronic equipment. In addition, it is not clear whether the contents are displayed to all attendant electronic equipment or authenticated attendant electronic equipment.

In addition, as currently claimed, it is not clear whether the components are for the intention for using it for the recited limitations, or, said each components are adapted to perform the claimed recited limitations.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3 – 9 and 24 – 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over archived web pages of www.decisionroom.com hereinafter known as DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy et al. US Patent 5,999,525 and further in view of an article Managing Workgroups with Castle Rock SNMPC hereinafter known as SNMPC.

Regarding claim 1, as best understood by examiner, DecisionRoom teaches the idea a network conferencing system (meeting room on the web) having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation (user devices), a plurality of attendant electronic equipment operated by users attending a conference

(user devices) [DecisionRoom, page 3, 10], and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network. DecisionRoom teaches:

attendant electronic equipment to have an information input/output unit (user devices have display and input devices to be able to communicate with the remote server over the web);

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of a presentation by using the output electronic equipment (The application gives users instant access to work in progress. Users can post, view and comment on text, graphic, animations) [DecisionRoom, page 26];

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment (The application gives users instant access to work in progress. Users can post, view and comment on text, graphic, animations) [DecisionRoom, page 26];

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network, at a conference (DecisionRoom requires registration);

DecisionRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication

network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations;

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches:

capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each

respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant;

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit [DecisionRoom, page 26],

wherein one of the authority to be a presenter terminal, the authority to be a chairman terminal and the authority to be an attendant terminal is acquired by each attendant electronic equipment [DecisionRoom].

Regarding claim 3, as best understood by examiner and as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom teaches an attendant electronic equipment operated by a user attending a conference for transmitting and/or receiving information via a communication network to and/or from a conference management server which is connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation and which transmits and/or receives information to and/or from the output electronic equipment via the communication network, the attendant electronic equipment comprising [DecisionRoom, page 3, 10, 26]:

DecisionRoom teaches attendant electronic equipment to include an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the conference management server unit (user devices have display and input devices to be able to communicate with the remote server over the web);

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of a presentation by using the output electronic equipment (The application gives users instant access to work in progress. Users can post, view and comment on text, graphic, animations) [DecisionRoom, page 26];

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment (The application gives users instant access to work in progress. Users can post, view and comment on text, graphic, animations) [DecisionRoom, page 26];

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network, at a conference [DecisionRoom requires registration];

DecisionRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches:
capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit
[DecisionRoom, page 26],

wherein one of the authority to be a presenter terminal, the authority to be a chairman terminal, and the authority to be an attendant terminal is acquired by each attendant electronic equipment.

Regarding claim 4, as best understood by examiner and as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom teaches A network conferencing system having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment operated by users attending a conference, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment, via a communication network [DecisionRoom, page 3, 10, 26],

DecisionRoom teaches attendant electronic equipment to include an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the conference management server unit (user devices have display and input devices to be able to communicate with the remote server over the web),

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of a presentation during a conference by using the output electronic equipment (The application gives users instant access to work in progress. Users can post, view and comment on text, graphic, animations) [DecisionRoom, page 26],

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant (The application gives users instant access to work in progress. Users can post, view and comment on text, graphic, animations) [DecisionRoom, page 26], an authentication unit

for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other electronic equipment at a conference (DecisionRoom requires registration),

DecisionRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches:

capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit [DecisionRoom, page 26],

wherein when the authority to be a chairman terminal is provided, the authentication unit obtains conference attendance requests including personal data related to the other attendant electronic equipment from the conference management server and prepares attendance permission information or attendance non-permission information for the other attendant electronic equipment in accordance with the operation by the user based on the personal data (DecisionRoom requires user to register and log-in to use the system, and, is it old and known to one of ordinary skill in the art that usually the person who sets up the conference meeting is the chairperson of the conference. SNMPC has the capability to display plurality of remote device icons which are actively connected to the managed environment). Also, in claim 4, the permission or non-permission information generated in never used in the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 5, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein the authentication unit prepares attendance permission information which enables selection of icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment permitted to attend the conference, and attendance non-permission information which makes it impossible to select icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment not permitted to attend the conference (DecisionRoom teaches users to be registered in a group, SNMPC teaches idea of representing user devices to be monitored as an icon on a console).

Regarding claim 6, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein conference attendance requests including the personal information to request for attendance at the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are inputted to the information input/output unit via the conference management server, and

the authentication unit prepares attendance permission information for changing the display mode of the icon displays of the other electronic equipment when the attendance is permitted in accordance with the operation by the user, in response to the conference attendance requests inputted to the information input/output unit (Feature on SNMPC wherein icon changes color to display the status of the device, for example, SNMP base product like HP OpenView displays icon as green when the device is in communication, and, red when the device is not in communication).

Regarding claim 7, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches capability wherein the display unit includes icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing in the communication network, in a first screen area, and includes icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing outside the communication network, in a second screen area (applicant is claiming granularity of icons to be monitored as their claimed invention).

Regarding claim 8, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches capability wherein the display unit displays location attribute information indicating the presence of each of the electronic equipment in the communication network, in the first screen area, and displays location attribute information indicating the presence of each of the electronic equipment outside the communication network, in the second screen area (applicant is claiming granularity of icons to be monitored as their claimed invention).

Regarding claim 9, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches capability wherein conference leaving requests to request leaving the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are input to the information input/output unit via the conference management server (applicant is claiming logging out of a conference as their claimed invention), and
the display unit changes the display mode of icon displays related to the other

attendant electronic equipment which output the conference leaving requests, in response to the conference leaving requests input to the information input/output unit (SNMPc teaches this limitation).

Regarding claim 24, as best understood by examiner and as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom teaches an attendance authentication method for a conference management server connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation and a plurality of attendant electronic equipment via a communication network.

DecisionRoom teaches attendant electronic equipment to include an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network, a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment, a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment, an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference,

DecisionRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities

[Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches:
capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit [DecisionRoom, page 26],

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches concept of: inputting a conference attendance request including personal data related to the attendant electronic equipment from the attendant electronic equipment (DecisionRoom teaches creating of groups);

outputting the conference attendance request to the other attendant electronic equipment;

inputting the result of attendance authentication in accordance with the conference attendance request;

preparing an attendance information file for managing the plurality of attendant electronic equipment attending a conference by using the personal data and the result of attendance authentication; and

preparing attendant equipment display information for displaying, as an icon, the personal data of each attendant electronic equipment managed as the attendance information file in accordance with the result of attendance authentication [SNMPC].

Regarding claim 25, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein attendance permission information or attendance non-permission information from the attendant electronic

equipment having the authority as a chairman terminal having the information input/output unit, the authentication unit, the equipment management unit, the display unit and the proceedings control unit is inputted, and
the contents of the attendance information file are updated.

Regarding claim 26, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein the prepared attendant equipment display information is outputted to the attendant electronic equipment connected with the communication network.

Regarding claim 27, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein attendant equipment display information which enables selection of icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment permitted to attend the conference on the basis of the attendance permission information from the chairman terminal and which makes it impossible to select icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment not permitted to attend the conference on the basis of the attendance non-permission information is prepared.

Regarding claim 28, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein conference attendance requests including the personal data to request for attendance at the conference from

the other attendant electronic equipment are inputted, and

attendant equipment display information for changing the display mode of icon displays is prepared on the basis of the attendance permission information from the chairman terminal in accordance with the conference attendance requests.

Regarding claim 29, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein attendant equipment display information including icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing within the communication network, in a first screen area, and including icon displays of the other attendant electronic equipment existing outside the communication network, in a second screen area, is prepared.

Regarding claim 30, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein attendant equipment display information for displaying location attribute information indicating the presence within the communication network, in the first screen area, and displaying location attribute information indicating the presence outside the communication network, in the second screen area, is prepared.

Regarding claim 31, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches capability wherein conference leaving requests to request leaving the conference from the other attendant electronic equipment are

input, and

attendant equipment display information for changing the display mode of icon displays related to the other attendant electronic equipment which output conference leaving requests is prepared.

Regarding claim 32, as best understood by examiner and as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom teaches an attendant electronic equipment, operated by a user attending a conference for transmitting and/or receiving information via a communication network to and/or from a conference management server which is connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation and which transmits and/or receives information to and/or from the output electronic equipment via the communication network. DecisionRoom teaches attendant electronic equipment to include an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the conference management server, a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment, a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment, an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other electronic equipment at a conference.

DecisonRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for

managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches:

capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other

attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit
[DecisionRoom, page 26].

concept wherein when the authority to be a chairman terminal is provided, the authentication unit obtains conference attendance requests including personal data related (applicant is claiming data as their invention) to the other attendant electronic equipment from the conference management server and prepares attendance permission information or attendance non-permission information for the other attendant electronic equipment in accordance with the operation by the user based on the personal data.

Regarding claim 33, as best understood by examiner and as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom teaches a network conferencing system having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment operated by users attending a conference, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network wherein in the network conferencing system, each of the

attendant electronic equipment comprises an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network, a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment, a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment, an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other electronic equipment at a conference,

DecisionRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment

managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches:

capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit [DecisionRoom, page 26],

concept wherein when the presentation unit transfers the contents of the presentation to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment via the conference management server, the contents of the presentation and supplementary contents related to the contents of the presentation are displayed by the display unit.

Regarding claim 34, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches concept wherein the presentation unit transfers only the data related to the contents of the presentation to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment.

Regarding claim 35, as best understood by examiner and as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom teaches a presentation method for a network conferencing system having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment operated by users attending a conference, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment-via a communication network.

DecisionRoom teaches attendant electronic equipment to include an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network, a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment, a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment, an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other electronic equipment at a conference,

DecisionRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to provide features of network management to users.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPc a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPc to provide pictorial view of the network status

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPc teaches a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the

presentation presented by the presentation unit [DecisionRoom, page 26],

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches:

capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit [DecisionRoom, page 26],

concept wherein when transferring the contents of the presentation to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment via the conference management server by the presentation unit, the contents of the presentation and supplementary contents related to the contents of the presentation are displayed by the display unit.

Regarding claim 36, as responded to earlier, DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches concept wherein only the data related to the contents of the presentation is transferred to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment.

Regarding claim 37, as best understood by examiner and as responded to

earlier, DecisionRoom teaches an attendant electronic equipment operated by a user attending a conference for transmitting and/or receiving information via a communication network to and/or from a conference management server which is connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation and which transmits and/or receives information to and/or from the output electronic equipment via the communication network.

DecisionRoom teaches attendant electronic equipment to include an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network, a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment, a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation during a conference presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment, an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other electronic equipment at a conference,

DecisonRoom does not explicitly teach an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network. However, Krishnaswamy teaches the concept of allowing users to manage more aspects of a network than previously possible and control network activities [Krishnaswamy, summary]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom as taught by Krishnaswamy to

provide features of network management to users.

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy does not explicitly teach a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit. However, SNMPC a product by Castle Rock which was commercially available at the time of invention teaches the idea of a user device having capability of monitoring and managing network wherein remote devices are displayed on the user device represented by an icon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches as taught by SNMPC to provide pictorial view of the network status

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy teaches capability wherein the electronic equipment can be located in at least two separate locations

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches:

capability to display as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the other attendant electronic equipment icons are displayed to visually identify whether each respective attendant electronic equipment has been authenticated by the authentication unit and is currently available for use by a conference participant

a proceedings control unit for controlling preparation of the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit
[DecisionRoom, page 26],

DecisionRoom in view of Krishnaswamy and SNMPC teaches concept wherein when the presentation unit transfers the contents of the presentation to the output electronic equipment or the attendant electronic equipment via the conference management server, the contents of the presentation and supplementary contents related to the contents of the presentation are displayed by the display unit.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Applicant is required under 37 CFR '1.111 (c) to consider the references fully when responding to this office action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NARESH VIG whose telephone number is (571)272-6810. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 7:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

02 September 2008

/Naresh Vig/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3629